

**Exhibit 20:**

Formal Acknowledgment of Western Values Project's  
April 6, 2018 FWS FOIA Request (May 3, 2018)



Chris Saeger <csaeger@westernvaluesproject.org>

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## FWS-2018-00651: Acknowledgement Letter

1 message

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**FOIA, FWHQ** <fwhq\_foia@fws.gov>  
To: csaeger@westernvaluesproject.org

Thu, May 3, 2018 at 7:59 AM

Mr. Saeger:

Please see attached.

Thank You,  
Shauntá Nichols

--  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
Headquarters Freedom of Information Act Office  
MS: IRTM  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041

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 **FWS-2018-00651\_Ack Ltr.final.signed.pdf**  
208K



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: IRTM  
Falls Church, VA 22041

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
FWS-2018-00651

May 2, 2018

Chris Saeger  
Western Values Project  
704C East 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 568  
Whitefish, MT 59937  
Email: [csaeger@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:csaeger@westernvaluesproject.org)

Dear Mr. Saeger:

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) FOIA office received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated April 6, 2018 and on April 10, 2018 assigned it control number FWS-2018-00651. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request.

You requested the following:

*“access to and copies of correspondence, including but not limited to letters, texts, emails, and faxes, to or Gregory Sheehan, since June 5, 2017, relating to DOI, BLM and/or USFWS processes for employees, appointees, contractors, and/or vendors selected to categorize and/or analyze the public comments received in response to Secretarial Order 3353, posted October 11, 2017.”*

We have granted your fee waiver. We have classified you as an “other-use” requester.

We use Multitrack Processing to process FOIA requests. The Simple track is for requests that can be processed in one to five workdays. The Normal track is for requests that can be processed in six to twenty workdays. The Complex track is for requests that can be processed in twenty-one to sixty workdays. The Exceptional/Voluminous track is for requests requiring more than sixty workdays for processing. The Expedited track is for requests that have been granted expedited processing. Within each track, requests are usually processed on a first-in, first-out basis.

Your request falls into the Complex processing track. You may narrow the scope of your request to obtain quicker processing in your currently-assigned track or move the request into a faster track (which may have the effect of reducing the cost of processing your request). If you have any questions about this, please contact us.

Because we will need to search for and collect requested records from other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request, we are taking a 10-workday extension under [43 C.F.R. § 2.19](#). We therefore expect that we will dispatch a determination to you by May 3, 2018.

As yet, we have been unable to make a determination on your request. We apologize for this delay. Although we hope that you will wait so that we can complete our search process, please note that you may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison, Carrie Hyde-Michaels at (703) 358-2291 and/or seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS).

If you choose to contact OGIS, you may do so in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Web: <https://ogis.archives.gov>  
Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

You may also file an appeal with the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer regarding this delay. If you choose to appeal this delay, you may do so anytime between now and the date we make our determination on the FOIA request. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

**Your appeal must be made in writing.** You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and FWS concerning your FOIA request, including your original FOIA request and FWS' response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and FWS will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

*DOI FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office Contact Information*

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
MS-6556 MIB  
Washington, DC 20240

Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office

Telephone: (202) 208-5339

Fax: (202) 208-6677

Email: [FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov)

We regret the delay and appreciate your consideration. For more information on FOIA Administrative Appeals, you may review the Department's FOIA regulations at [43 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart H](#). If you have any questions, you may contact Shaunta Nichols by phone at (703) 358-2374 or email at [shaunta\\_nichols@fws.gov](mailto:shaunta_nichols@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

Carrie Hyde-Michaels  
FWS FOIA Officer